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For Immediate Release: February 28, 2008
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Hanson Fire Intentionally Set

State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan, Hanson Fire Chief Jerome Thompson, and Hanson Police Chief Edward F. Savage III said their joint investigation into the February 26, 2008 fire at 308 Maquan Street has determined the cause was arson.

Coan said, "We encourage anyone who might have seen or heard something around the time of the 7:30 p.m. fire, to call the confidential Arson Hotline toll-free, 24-hours a day at 1-800-682-9229, or contact Hanson Police Det. Steven Gorman." The Arson Hotline is part of the Arson Watch Reward Program that gives rewards of up to \$5,000 for information helping to solve the crime of arson. The Mass. Property Insurance Underwriting Association, representing the property and casualty insurance companies of Massachusetts, sponsors the Arson Watch Reward Program.

Chief Thompson said, "The Maquan Street fire was intentionally set. We hope that someone in the community has information that can help investigators and will come forward. Arson is not a victimless crime."

The fire is being jointly investigated by members of the Hanson Fire and Police Departments and state troopers assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal's Fire Investigation Unit.

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